

Myth and Reality

Myth

- **Misconceptions based on the "look" of your equipment.** You can often hear it said - *that looks like a big/expensive camera/lens - it must take good pictures*
- **Lighting conditions.** You should only take images in good lighting and during the "golden hour"
- **Sensor size affects depth of field.** You get more depth of field with smaller (cropped) sensors

Reality

- **The camera doesn't *take* pictures - it *records* images. The photographer takes the picture.**
 - The majority of cameras today can produce excellent images, regardless of manufacturer/type/cost/specification - and the invariable "Canon v Nikon" banter you'll sometimes hear at Club meetings is simply that; nothing more.
 - Generally speaking if viewed online or projected you won't be able to tell if a picture has been taken with a consumer or professional camera - or on a phone

Case in point - have a look at the Mobile Photography Awards

<https://mobilephotoawards.com/>

So **don't** get camera envy.

- Use what you have, learn its benefits and limitations.
- If the limitations (eg, low light/autofocus capability, frame rate, durability), are preventing you from taking the specific type of pictures you want, at that point consider upgrading.
- By all means buy as good a camera as you want, can afford and that suits your needs, but at the end of the day it's invariably what goes on in your head not at your fingertip that's most important.

- Remember:
 - A bad workman blames his tools, but
 - Good tools can make a craftsman even better.
- **There is no such thing as bad lighting or time of day for photography** - just bad attitude and lack of imagination and sometimes inappropriate clothing!
- **A full frame and cropped sensor will deliver exactly the same depth of field if aperture, lens focal length and focused distance are the same with each**
 - BUT - generally speaking if you use a cropped sensor to achieve exactly the same compositional framing as when using a full frame sensor you will either need to move away from the subject or use a wider lens, ie you alter lens focal length or focused distance, both of which **will** give greater depth of field.
 - Some will argue on this but in reality it's not of any real consequence if you only have one camera with you!

And a final reality check:

- **Don't forget we all take some rubbish pictures** - the trick is only showing the good ones to other people 😊